UNIVERSITY OF ST ANDREWS - QUALIFICATIONS GROUP

Rationale
The University of St Andrews is a global recruiter of Undergraduate students and is looking to grow and expand into new markets. To ensure that we recruit only those able to succeed in their programmes, the University needs an institutional knowledge of qualifications from Europe and across the world. In addition, the UK education system and qualifications are currently undergoing a significant period of change, with proposed changes to A-levels, the introduction of the Curriculum for Excellence, the introduction of Baccalaureate and Diploma programmes, and the increase in presentation of vocational and non-traditional qualifications.

The University needs to consider qualifications as indicators of achievement and knowledge and needs a level of understanding of these qualifications in order to use these qualifications appropriately for admissions purposes as well as for advanced standing and progression purposes.

Function
The proposed function of the group is to consider existing qualifications (both traditionally academic and vocational) in the UK, Europe and internationally, to ensure that we are fully aware of content, level, breadth, relevance and depth of learning involved. The group will also consider newly introduced and revised qualifications to ensure they are still appropriate for our purposes.

The group would look to inform across the University, and this may include reference to asking rates and entrance qualifications, both at Faculty and course level making recommendations for changes if required. The group would take direction from and report to existing University structures.

In addition the group may consider issues of RPL, Advanced Standing and Progression in the context of qualifications.

The group will work with the Planning Officer and Manager to ensure appropriate data is sought and analysed in pursuit of these functions.

Indicative remit of group
- Institutional knowledge of qualifications
- Benchmarking of new and existing grades and bands
- Benchmarking of new qualifications
- Benchmarking of combinations of qualification – mix and match
- Use of S6 and Advanced Highers
- Entry requirements
  - Cycle and timing of changes (not based on prospectus)
  - Grades
  - Pre-requisites
  - Subject groupings
  - Faculty entrance requirements
  - Diets and sittings
  - Use of S6 and Advanced Highers
  - Use of school transcripts – AS certification
- RPL – use of qualifications as entry currency as well as advanced standing
- Credit decay policy – for admissions, not just advanced standing
  - Decay period
  - Relevant experience to mitigate for decay period
Composition and Membership

Ex Officio

- Pro Dean Advising Arts
- Pro Dean Advising Science
- Pro Dean Curriculum Science
- Admissions Officer – Science
- Admissions Officer – Arts
- Admissions Officer – Medicine
- Director of UK Admissions
- Director of EU/Scottish Admissions and Access
- Director of International Admissions
- Assistant Registrar
- Representative from ELT

In Attendance

Representative from Print and Design
Administrator

Membership 2014-15

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<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Member</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pro Deans of the University</td>
<td>Pro Dean Advising, Arts, Dr Stephen Tyre</td>
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<td>Pro Dean Advising, Science, Dr Iain Matthews</td>
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<td>Pro Dean Curriculum Science, Dr Martin Campbell</td>
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<td>Service Units</td>
<td>Registry, Marie-Noel Earley</td>
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<td>Admissions, Beth Shotton</td>
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<td>Admissions, Mike Johnson</td>
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<td>Admissions, Ben Stride</td>
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<td>Print and Design, Kitty Macintyre</td>
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<td>Schools Representatives</td>
<td>Computer Science, Dr Tristan Henderson</td>
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<td>Medicine, Mary Ainsworth</td>
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<td>English Language Teaching, Deborah Brazendale</td>
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<td>Modern Languages, Dr Emily Finer</td>
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<td>Clerk</td>
<td>Senior Administrator, Brenda Gardiner</td>
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Reporting and accountability

The group will submit an annual report to the Principal’s Office through the Vice Principal Learning and Teaching (Proctor) and the Vice Principal Governance. Recommendations for change would also be submitted for consideration by the Learning and Teaching Committee where appropriate.